tical fibre and digital microwave system and ducts;

(iv) Modernisation of auto manual trunk exchanges.

The estimated capital outlay invoi ed is around Rs. 700 crores.

**Conference on 'Computer and Communication'**

3851. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is holding for the first time, an international conference on 'Computer and Communication';

(b) if so, the main purpose of this conference; and

(c) to what extent the conference will help to develop the communication and computer system in India?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

**Implementation of Prevention of Atrocity Act, 1989**

3852. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred by the Union Government in Uttar Pradesh on implementation of the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocity) Act, 1989 during 1990-91 and the amount allocated for this, for the year 1991-92; and

(b) the details of the amount allocated and incurred by the Uttar Pradesh Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b). An amount of Rs. 79,35,000/- was released as matching central share to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh during 1990-91. No proposal has been received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for allocation of funds for 1991-92. Nor has the statement of expenditure been supplied by the State Government.

[*English*]

**Abduction of Foreigners in Kashmir**

3853. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number and the details of foreigners abducted by the extremists in the Kashmir Valley during the last two months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): On the night between the 14th and 15th October, 1991 one French national Shri Antonio Silva, an Engineer of Dul-Hasti Hydro-electric project was reported missing. His car was found at the bottom of a ravine burned and smashed into pieces but no trace of the body was reported. Later on 17.10.91 a Jammu and Kashmir terrorist outfit 'Al-Fateh' claimed responsibility for his abduction.

**Scheme for development of Tribal Areas in Maharashtra**

3854. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH; Will the Minster of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have for-

mulated any scheme for the development of tribal areas in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the central assistance provided under the scheme; and

(c) the progress made so far under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) (a) to (c). The details of the Tribal Sub-Plan of Maharashtra are available in the State Plan Document.

**Proposal to start Regional New Unit and P.I.B. Unit at Vizag in Andhra Pradesh**

3855. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to start Regional News Centre and P.I.B. Centre at Vizag in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, steps initiated in this regard so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b). The opening of new PIB offices depends on the size of the 8th Plan and availability of financial resources.

There is no proposal to start Regional News Centre at Vizag in Andhra Pradesh.

**Performance of Thermal Power Plants**

3856. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently reviewed the performances of all the thermal power plants in the country;

(b) if so, the period of performance for which information has been received; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). The performance of thermal power stations in the country is being contineously monitored, The details of energy generation and plant load factor of thermal power stations during April-November, 1991 are furnished below:

*Period: April-Nov. 91*

| | |
|---|---|
| Thermal Generation (Million Units) | |
| Target | 135597 |
| Actual | 131710 |
| *Plant Load Factor (%)* | |
| Target | 54.4 |
| Actual | 52.8 |